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Agenda item 20 (c)
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Yemen: draft resolution

World Tsunami Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[2] adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted on 25 September 2015,[3]

Recalling its resolutions 69/216 and 69/219 of 19 December 2014 and 69/245 of 29 December 2014, and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 71/12 of 29 May 2015,

[1] Resolution 69/283, annex I.
[2] Ibid., annex II.
[3] Resolution 70/1.

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Considering the reference to the support for World Tsunami Day in the Leaders' Declaration of the Seventh Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting of 23 May 2015 and in the New Tokyo Strategy 2015 for Mekong-Japan Cooperation adopted at the Seventh Mekong-Japan Summit of 4 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Emphasizing that tsunamis have claimed many lives and caused tremendous damage and are a common challenge for many countries, as was witnessed in Chile in 1960, in the Philippines in 1976, in Papua New Guinea in 1998, in Turkey in 1999, in Peru in 2001, in the coastal States of the Indian Ocean in 2004, off the coast of Samoa and Tonga in 2009 and in eastern Japan in 2011,

Recognizing the significance of preparedness and the prompt dissemination of information through early warning systems, the use of traditional knowledge and the concept of "Building Back Better" in the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phases, in order to protect the lives of people and prevent the damage caused by tsunamis, as referred to in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and as exemplified by the *Inamura-no-hi* anecdote of the villager who, on 5 November 1854, at the expense of his property, saved the lives of village inhabitants by setting fire to his sheaves of rice, thus quickly disseminating information about a tsunami, leading to the evacuation of the village, and then made an effort to build back the village better,

1. *Decides* to designate 5 November as World Tsunami Day;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Tsunami Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise public awareness of the risk caused by tsunamis;

3. *Requests* the Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, in collaboration with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of World Tsunami Day, and stresses that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.